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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Hiroaki KOSEKI et al.**

Serial No.: **09/395,935**

Group Art Unit: 2712

Filed: **September 14, 1999**

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: **IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

July 9, 2002

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

These documents were cited in a European Search Report dated June 4, 2002 in a corresponding European application. Among these documents, Documents AA and AF were previously submitted with an European Search Report dated August 5, 2001 in the U.S. Patent Office on September 13, 2001. A copy of the European Search Report and copies of the documents except Documents AA and AF are also enclosed.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date (or the entry of the national stage) of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a)

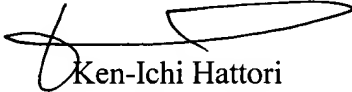
Serial No.: **09/395,935**

concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449, references (4) and European Search Report